

Media Release

Voith Group

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Voith participates in test phase for Europe-wide introduction of automatic freight coupler as part of DAC4EU

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- Four Voith CargoFlex units were fitted to vehicles of DB Cargo and GATX in Germany and Green Cargo in Sweden.
- Various coupler types from four manufacturers are to be tested in detail starting in October 2020.

SALZGITTER, GERMANY. As a technology partner and pioneer, Voith has set itself the goal of energy-efficient mobility for people and goods. In order to cope with the problem of constantly increasing transport volumes, Voith has developed the CargoFlex coupler for more safety, efficiency and transport performance in rail freight service. Recently, four automatic freight couplers each were installed in test cars of DB Cargo and GATX in Germany as well as Green Cargo in Sweden.

The official start of the test series, which is being commissioned and financed by the Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure (BMVI) in Germany and Shift2Rail in Sweden, is planned for October 5, 2020. The project runs from June 2020 to the end of 2022. By spring 2021, all couplers of the participating manufacturers are to be thoroughly tested, including their winter suitability, and a decision for a Europe-wide introduction of a standardized coupler head is to be made.

Automation for maximum efficiency

Since May 2019, the Voith CargoFlex has already been successfully deployed in day-to-day operations at SBB Cargo, a subsidiary of Swiss Federal Railways (SBB). For the tests, this coupler was upgraded with a digital component that enables power and data transmission. The electric head used for this purpose functions purely mechanically, so that no change in the brake pipe is necessary. The CargoFlex is also compatible with the UIC530 directive and ensures that no modification in the wagon structure is required. Furthermore, the coupler is optimally adapted to the high loads in rail freight traffic and, thanks to its light yet robust design, is created for extraordinary reliability and a long service life. The whole

system is complemented by a modular concept for expansion with existing and future modules as required, for example, automatic uncoupling.

Find more information online: www.voith.com/cargoflex

About the Voith Group

The Voith Group is a global technology company. With its broad portfolio of systems, products, services and digital applications, Voith sets standards in the markets of energy, oil & gas, paper, raw materials and transport & automotive. Founded in 1867, the company today has more than 19,000 employees, sales of € 4.3 billion and locations in over 60 countries worldwide and is thus one of the larger family-owned companies in Europe.

The Group Division Voith Turbo is part of the Voith Group and a specialist for intelligent drive technology, systems as well as tailor-made services. With its innovative and smart products, Voith offers highest efficiency and reliability. Customers from highly diverse industries such as oil and gas, energy, mining and mechanical engineering, ship technology, rail and commercial vehicles rely on the advanced technologies and digital applications of Voith.



The successful installation of the four couplers at Green Cargo in Eskilstuna, Sweden, was carried out September 8-10, 2020.

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